

CHAPTER NO. 586

SENATE BILL NO. 2667

By Kyle, Burks

Substituted for: House Bill No. 2736

By Hargrove, Hagood, Hargett, Newton

AN ACT To amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 65-4-125, relative to the regulation of telecommunications.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 65-4-125(f), is amended by deleting the words and numbers "one hundred dollars (\$100)", and by substituting instead the following:

"not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) nor more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000)"

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 65-4-125(f), is further amended by adding the following language at the end of the subsection:

The Tennessee Regulatory Authority shall consider mitigating factors as raised by the telecommunications service provider in assessing the amount of the civil penalty. The Tennessee Regulatory Authority shall allocate at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the revenue collected from such civil penalty for consumer education.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 65-4-125, is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subsection:

(j) By September 1, 2000, all telecommunications service providers subject to the control and jurisdiction of the authority, except those owners or operators of public telephone service who pay annual inspection and supervision fees pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 65-4-301(b), or any telecommunications service provider that owns and operates equipment facilities in Tennessee with a value of more than five million dollars (\$5,000,000), shall file with the authority a corporate surety bond or irrevocable letter of credit in the amount of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) to secure the payment of any monetary sanction imposed in any enforcement proceeding, brought under this title or the Consumer Telemarketing Protection Act of 1990, by or on behalf of the authority.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: March 2, 2000

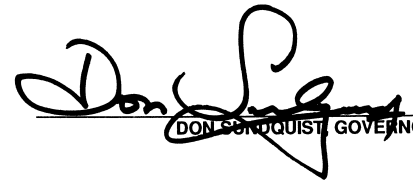


JOHN S. WILDER  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 10th day of March 2000



DON SUNDQUIST, GOVERNOR